

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application;

1. (Currently Amended) An optical filter disposed in front of a screen, ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

a substrate; and

a circularly polarizing filter layer formed on the substrate for converting outside light applied thereto into circularly polarized light and limiting [[the]] a passage of circularly polarized light that is reflected by the screen and has its direction of polarization inverted.

2. (Original) The optical filter according to claim 1, characterized in that said optical filter is spaced a predetermined distance from said screen.

3. (Original) The optical filter according to claim 2, characterized in that said screen includes a plasma display panel.

4. (Currently Amended) The optical filter according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said circularly polarizing filter layer includes a combination of a linear polarizer positioned on a front side thereof to which the outside light is applied, and a 1/4 phase difference plate

positioned on a rear side thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The optical filter according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said substrate is a glass substrate and said circularly polarizing filter layer is bonded to [[a]] said glass substrate by an adhesive layer.

6. (Currently Amended) The optical filter according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising an antireflection film disposed on a front side of said circularly polarizing filter layer to which the outside light is applied.

7. (Original) The optical filter according to claim 1, characterized in that said screen includes a self-emission screen.

8. (Currently Amended) An image display apparatus having an optical filter disposed in front of a screen, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising:

a substrate; and

~~said optical filter has a circularly polarizing filter layer formed on said substrate~~ for converting outside light applied thereto into circularly polarized light and limiting [[the]] passage of circularly polarized light that is reflected by the screen.

9. (Original) The image display apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that said optical filter is spaced a predetermined distance from said screen.

10. (Original) The image display apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that said screen includes a plasma display panel.

11. (Currently Amended) The image display apparatus according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said circularly polarizing filter layer includes a combination of a linear polarizer positioned on a front side thereof to which the outside light is applied, and a 1/4 phase difference plate positioned on a rear side thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The image display apparatus according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said substrate is a glass substrate and said circularly polarizing filter layer is bonded to [[a]] said glass substrate by an adhesive layer.

13. (Currently Amended) The image display apparatus according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ said optical filter has further comprising an antireflection film disposed on a

7217/69508

front side of said optical filter to which the outside light is applied.

14. (Original) The image display apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that said screen includes a self-emission screen.